

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following is a complete listing of claims in this application.

Claims 1-13 (canceled).

14. (new) Sonotrode for an ultrasonic welding device having a longitudinal axis, said sonotrode having a head portion comprising at least one working surface which is substantially parallel to the longitudinal axis, a front surface which is substantially perpendicular to the at least one working surface, and a back surface,

the sonotrode transferring ultrasonic vibrations in the direction of the longitudinal axis,

wherein at least one of the front surface and the back surface comprises at least one reinforcement for reducing deflection of the at least one working surface.

15. (new) Sonotrode according to claim 14, wherein the reinforcement is a rib.

16. (new) Sonotrode according to claim 14, wherein the reinforcement exhibits triangular geometry in a section of the longitudinal axis.

17. (new) Sonotrode according to claim 14, wherein the reinforcement increases in height over the front surface from a peripheral edge of the front surface at the at least one working surface, in the direction of the longitudinal axis .

18. (new) Sonotrode according to claim 14, wherein the reinforcement runs perpendicular to the at least one working surface.

19. (new) Sonotrode according to claim 14, wherein the reinforcement is shaped in a linear manner.

20. (new) Sonotrode according to claim 14, wherein the reinforcement projects from the entire, or substantially entire, front surface.

21. (new) Sonotrode according to claim 14, wherein the

reinforcement is shaped symmetrically to a symmetry plane in which the longitudinal axis runs.

22. (new) Sonotrode according to claim 14, wherein the reinforcement is shaped in a beaded manner, as a beam in a linear manner, respectively.

23. (new) Sonotrode according to claim 14, wherein the sonotrode is reinforced in such a way that, with ultrasonic excitation, deflection a_z of the sonotrode, acts in the direction of its longitudinal axis (40) by deflecting a_y perpendicular to the working surface (28, 30), where $3 \leq a_z / a_y \leq 20$.

24. (new) Sonotrode according to claim 14, wherein the reinforcement has a maximal extension d , over the front surface, of $3 \text{ mm} \leq d \leq 25 \text{ mm}$.

25. (new) Sonotrode according to claim 24, wherein $5 \text{ mm} \leq d \leq 15 \text{ mm}$.

26. (new) Sonotrode according to claim 14, wherein the reinforcement has a maximal extension d , over the front surface, of 10 mm .